

Diocese of Columbus
Grade Eight Religion COS
Based on the **Six Tasks of Catechesis***

I. Catechesis promotes Knowledge of the Faith

(Catechism of the Catholic Church 26-1065; General Directory for Catechesis 84-85, 87)

- A. The Person of Jesus Christ** Jesus loves and invites every person to be in relationship with him
- I.A.1.** Know that the goal of all faith formation is a relationship with Jesus Christ (CCC 426-427)
 - I.A.2.** Explain the meaning of “all things are redeemed in Christ” (CCC 616; Col 1:20)
 - I.A.3.** Know that Christ’s resurrection confirms all his works and teachings and the truth of his divinity (CCC 651; 1 Cor 15:14)
- B. Understand Scripture** Sacred Scripture is the living word of God, a history of the covenant, and a guide for life today
- I.B.1.** Know how to use such resources as a bible dictionary, bible commentary, and bible atlas
 - I.B.2.** Describe the development of the Catholic canon (CCC 80-83)
 - I.B.3.** Identify the Old Testament themes which are central to Salvation History (Creation, Covenant, Exodus, People of God)
 - I.B.4.** Identify the themes of Salvation History that are fulfilled in the New Testament (Covenant, Redemption, Resurrection, Communion)
- C. Creeds and Doctrines of the Church** The Creed expresses the faith of our Church and professes it to the world
- I.C.1.** Explain why the Christian faith is Trinitarian (**CFCL I.A.3**)
 - I.C.2.** Distinguish among dogma, doctrine, and discipline (CCC 88-90)
 - I.C.3.** Demonstrate the ability to locate Church teaching in the catechism
 - I.C.4.** Identify some types of church documents, e.g. constitution, encyclical, and pastoral letter
 - I.C.5.** Define “sacred deposit” of the faith (CCC 84)
 - I.C.6.** Understand the relationship between justification and works in Catholic teaching (CCC 1987-1995; Jas 2:14-26)
- D. Discover the Church’s Tradition and Relevance of Church History** Our Church has a rich heritage which still serves as a guide for us today
- I.D.1.** Know the significance of the Council of Jerusalem
 - I.D.2.** Describe the role of the martyrs and hermits in the early Church
 - I.D.3.** Identify the Edict of Milan and its effect
 - I.D.4.** Describe the purpose and outcomes of the early ecumenical councils, e.g., Nicaea, Chalcedon, and Constantinople
 - I.D.5.** Describe the influence of St Augustine on the Church
 - I.D.6.** Explain the role of St Benedict in the growth of western monasticism
 - I.D.7.** Describe some of the issues that led up to the East – West Schism in 1054
 - I.D.8.** Explain how the mendicant religious communities affected the growth of the Church
 - I.D.9.** Describe the influence of the printing press on the life of the Church
 - I.D.10.** Identify key persons in the Reformation and Counter-Reformation
 - I.D.11.** Describe the Church’s link to the exploration of the New World

- I.D.12. Identify the papal encyclical *Rerum Novarum* as the first modern expression of Catholic Social Teaching
- I.D.13. Identify some significant outcomes of the Second Vatican Council **RACISM**
- I.D.14. Name some important figures in the history and life of the Catholic Church in the United States, e.g., Bishop John Carroll, St. Isaac Jogues, St. Frances Cabrini, Fr. Augustus Tolton, St. Elizabeth Seton, St. Katherine Drexel, St. Junipero Serra, St. Kateri Tekakwitha, etc. **RACISM**

E. Christian Thought and Culture Our Church's tradition is based in an appreciation for the gifts of many persons – theologians, saints, artists, teachers, and preachers – living as faithful disciples of Jesus

- I.E.1. Describe the Church's role in the growth of universities and hospitals
- I.E.2. Provide examples of the faith being taught through Christian art and music

II. Catechesis Promotes Knowledge of the Meaning of the Liturgy and Sacraments
(CCC 1066-1690; GDC 84-85, 87)

A. Paschal Mystery Forms and Transforms The liturgical and sacramental life of the Church informs, forms, and transforms us as disciples of Jesus in the world

- II.A.1. Explain how the Paschal Mystery “transcends all times while being made present in them all” (CCC 1085)

B. Sacraments Sacraments are special celebrations of God's love for us

- II.B.1. Understand the link between Baptism and Confirmation (CCC 1304-1305)
- II.B.2. Know the steps in the Rite of Confirmation (CCC 1293-1305)
- II.B.3. Describe what it means to say that the Eucharistic Liturgy is “the summit and source” of a Christian life (CCC 1324; LG 11)
- II.B.4. Define “transubstantiation” (CCC 1376)
- II.B.5. Identify the Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (CCC 1229-1233)

C. Liturgical Catechesis We are invited into full, active, and conscious participation in the liturgical life of the Church

- II.C.1. Define “liturgical catechesis” (CCC 1074-1075)
- II.C.2. Describe how music and art can be forms of liturgical catechesis (CCC 1156-1162)

D. Dimensions of Priesthood: Baptismal and Ordained Like Jesus, we are called to be priest, prophet, and king

- II.D.1. Know that through the Sacrament of Confirmation the baptized are further empowered to share in Christ's mission through a diversity of ministries (CCC 871-873)
- II.D.2. Know that the laity have the unique responsibility to be priest, prophet, and king in the world (CCC 871-873) **ADDICTION RACISM**

III. Catechesis Promotes Moral Formation in Jesus Christ

(CCC 1691-2557; GDC 84-85, 87)

A. Commandment to Love- The ‘new commandment’ of Jesus, to love one another as he, God, has loved us is one of the defining characteristics of the Christian faith.

III.A.1. Explain that the “New Commandment” is to love God, self, and others as Christ loved, being willing to lay down one’s life for the good of another (CCC 1970-72)

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III.A.2. Identify attitudes and behaviors that promote authentic love and the virtue of chastity (CCC 2338-2345, 2517-2527; CFCL I.A.24)

III.A.3. Recall that Jesus is the true model for charity and chastity (CCC 2348; CFCL I.A.9 & 20)

III.A.4. Know that our human sexuality (maleness/femaleness) is a gift that enables us to love as God intended (CCC 2333; CFCL I.A.23)

B. Ten Commandments and Beatitudes The Scriptures, especially in the Ten Commandments and the Sermon on the Mount, give us moral guidance

III.B.1. Explain why the Ten Commandments are still relevant for living a moral life (CCC 2070; CFCL I.A.19)

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III.B.2. Identify the characteristics of a disciple as outlined in the Beatitudes (CCC 1716-1717; CFCL I.A.19)

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C. Sin and Grace God’s love can overcome the evil of sin in our world

III.C.1. Know that in the Sacrament of Confirmation one receives, the fullness of the gifts of the Holy Spirit (CCC 1302-1305)

III.C.2. Explain the relationship between the gifts and the fruits of the Holy Spirit (CCC 1830-1832; Is 11:1-5; Gal 5:22)

III.C.3. Know that sin distorts the true understanding of love and human sexuality (CFCL I.A.5)

III.C.4. Identify some attitudes and vices that violate the virtue of chastity (CCC 2351-2359, 2380-2381, 2389, 2400; CFCL I.A.26)

III.C.5. Recall that mortal sin separates one from God; if one dies without confessing a mortal sin they are forever separated from God (CCC 1033; CFCL I.A.27)

D. Conscience Formation The Gospel calls us to ongoing conversion, transforming our ways of thinking and living

III.D.1. Explain how “a well-formed conscience” uses human reason, instructed by faith, to freely make good choices. (CCC 1783-1785; CFCL I.A.2)

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III.D.2. Know that a life of virtue enables us to make good choices and form the conscience properly (CCC 1834; CFCL I.A.13)

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III.D.3. Know that one has a responsibility to follow a well-formed conscience (CCC 1706, 1790-1794)

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E. Objective Moral Norms The Scriptures and Tradition of the Church teach us about right and wrong

III.E.1. Identify the role of Scripture, Tradition, and the Magisterium in living a moral life (CCC 85-86, 97-98)

III.E.2. Know that objective moral law expresses the truths revealed by Sacred Scripture and Sacred Tradition

III.E.3. Identify some of the violations of human dignity and chastity that are intrinsically wrong or grave (CCC 2351-2356, 2380-2391; CFCL I.B. 1-9)

F. Gospel of Life All life is a gift from God and is to be held sacred

III.F.1. Explain why the Catholic Church teaches that all life is sacred from conception to natural death (CCC 2318-2330) **ADDICTION RACISM SUICIDE**

III.F.2. Know that the first principle of Catholic Social Teaching is the promotion of human dignity (CCC #2419-2421) **ADDICTION RACISM SUICIDE**

III.F.3. Know the benefits of a life of chastity as it promotes the Gospel of Life, e.g., integrity of the person, ability to maintain authentic friendship, purity of heart and action, self-discipline and sacrifice, ability to foster the nuptial meaning of the body, etc. (CCC 2338-2347, CFCL I.A.25)

G. Living a Moral Life As disciples of Jesus, we desire to follow him in his attitudes and actions

III.G.1. Explain how the Theological and Cardinal virtues help us to master our passions and properly order our lives and behaviors towards God (CCC 1812-1813; CFCL I.A.14, 15)

III.G.2. Describe how the Gifts of the Holy Spirit help one to develop a virtuous life (CCC 1830; CFCL I.A.16)

III.G.3. Know that in spite of human weakness and failure one is called to follow Jesus and live a virtuous life each day (CCC 1810-1811; CFCL I.A.28) **ADDICTION SUICIDE**

IV. Catechesis Teaches the Christian How to Pray
(CCC 2558-2865; GDC 84-85, 87)

A. Christian Prayer Tradition Prayer in all its many forms is a language of love, faith, and hope

IV.A.1. Know that prayer is a gift from God that requires a response (CCC 2591) **ADDICTION SUICIDE**

IV.A.2. Describe the role of the Holy Spirit in prayer (CCC 2670; Rom 8:26)

IV.A.3. Recall and describe the different types of prayer (CCC 2625-2649)

B. Personal Prayer The mystery of God's action in our lives draws us into a deeper relationship and a deeper desire to respond in prayer

IV.B.1. Explain why prayer is essential to the life of a disciple (CCC 2744-2745; CFCL I.A.24) **ADDICTION RACISM SUICIDE**

IV.B.2. Recall the importance of Sacred Scripture in personal prayer, especially in *Lectio Divina* (CCC 2653-2654)

IV.B.3. Explain how prayer helps one live a loving and chaste life (CFCL I.A.24)

C. Communal Prayer We share prayer with others, and worship together as the People of God

IV.C.1. Know that the Mass, the seven sacraments, and the Liturgy of Hours comprise the official public prayer of the Church (CCC 1113, 1175)

IV.C.2. Know that the liturgy is Christ's prayer "to the Father in the Holy Spirit" (CCC 1073)

D. Popular Piety and Devotions Our families and friends share with us ways to grow closer to God

IV.D.1. Describe the history of some popular devotions, e.g., St. Faustina and Divine Mercy, Our Lady of Guadalupe celebrations, Day of the Dead, St. Francis and the crèche, etc. (CCC 1679, 2663)

V. Catechesis Prepares the Christian to Live in Community and to Participate in the Life and Mission of the Church (GDC, 84, 86-87)

A. Spiritual Growth Our community life is built on the understanding that humans grow and develop physically, mentally, emotionally, and socially as well as spiritually

V.A.1. Describe how **action of the Holy Spirit** in the Sacrament of Confirmation supports spiritual growth in both the individual and the community (CCC 1316; **CFCL I.A.13**)

V.A.2. **Know that one must re-commit daily to the practice of virtue and the life of prayer** (**CFCL I.A.22, 24**) **ADDICTION RACISM**

V.A.3. **Understand that Confirmation is not a graduation from the faith, but a deeper commitment to a life of discipleship and spiritual growth** **ADDICTION RACISM**

V.A.4. Know that we grow in virtue and discipleship through education, deliberate actions and perseverance in the good (CCC 1810; **CFCL I.A.22**) **ADDICTION RACISM**

B. Relationships and Responsibilities In the Gospel, Jesus teaches us that, living together in the Kingdom of God, we must grow in understanding, compassion, concern for the least, and mutual charity

V.B.1. Describe how Christian values and virtues are foundational in forming, strengthening and maintaining healthy relationships **ADDICTION RACISM**

V.B.2. **Identify how the virtue of chastity perfects our expression of love** (**CFCL I.A.24, 25**)

V.B.3. **Discuss how the power of the Holy Spirit can help one practice the virtues in our relationships with others and in our responsibility to care for all persons and creation** (**CFCL I.A.13**) **ADDICTION RACISM**

C. Marriage and Family Life—Domestic Church Our family life is the church of the home, where we learn to love God and care for each other

V.C.1. Explain the roles of consent, permanence, and fidelity in Christian marriage (CCC 1625-1629, 1638, 1646-1651; **CFCL I.A.29**)

V.C.2. Describe the important role of mutual love and respect, and the responsibilities of spouses toward each other and toward their children as examples of the love of the Trinity (CCC 1604,1631; **CFCL I.A.29**)

V.C.3. **Know and explain what the church teaches regarding homosexual unions** (CCC 1638ff; **CFCL I.A.26, I.B.8**)

V.C.4. **Identify attitudes and behaviors that go against the virtue of chastity in family life** (CCC 2351-2359, 2380-2381, 2389, 2400; **CFCL I.A.26, I.B.1-9**)

D. Faith Communities Participation in the life and mission of the Church is both personal and communal

V.D.1. Know that the sacraments are the work of Christ and benefit both the community and the individual person (CCC 1140) **ADDICTION**

V.D.2. Understand that Confirmation binds one more closely to the Church (CCC 1303)

V.D.3. Describe how the Gifts of the Spirit build up the Church

E. Nature and Mission of the Church The Church is the family of God, sent to bring the Good News of Jesus to all people

V.E.1. Identify the different bodies that carry out the teaching, sanctifying and governing roles of the Church e.g., Roman Curia, USCCB, local archbishops/ bishops, priests (CCC 888-896)

V.E.2. Explain what it means to say that the Magisterium is both servant and custodian of Scripture and Tradition (CCC 85-87)

F. Ecumenism We share in promoting the unity of all God's people as part of our fidelity to the Gospel

V.F.1. Name some of the ways Catholics can respond to the call of Ecumenism (CCC 821)

VI. Catechesis Promotes a Missionary Spirit that Prepares the Faithful to Transform the World (GDC 84, 86-87)

A. Evangelization The Sacraments of Initiation both invite and empower us to live as disciples in the larger society and in the world

VI.A.1. Understand that in the Sacrament of Confirmation strengthens one to live as a disciple (CCC 1303) **ADDICTION RACISM SUICIDE**

VI.A.2. Identify some church documents which present the New Evangelization and its importance

B. Vocation/Apostolate Each of us are called to a particular task in helping to reveal the Kingdom of God in the service of God's plan for the world

VI.B.1. Understand that the Gifts of the Holy Spirit help one discern God's unique invitation to service of the Church

VI.B.2. Know how the virtue of chastity is lived in the various Christian vocations (CFCL I.A.21)

VI.B.3. Describe how the different vocations express the unconditional and selfless action that is the love of the Trinity (CFCL I.A.3)

C. Social Action and Transformation The Social Teachings of our tradition inspire us to concern and to action aimed at the well-being of all humankind

VI.C.1. Recall the seven themes of Catholic Social Teaching **ADDICTION RACISM**

VI.C.2. Know that the Sacrament of Confirmation completes one's initiation into the life and mission activity in the Church (CCC 1303)

D. Interreligious Dialogue We dialogue and work with people of other faiths, to build understanding and to find our common hopes and values for a better world

VI.D.1. Know that the Church acknowledges the spiritual and moral truths of other religions as a preparation for hearing the Gospel (CCC 843)

*Committee on Education of the United States Catholic Conference. *Our Hearts Were Burning Within Us: A Pastoral Plan for Adult Faith Formation in the United States*. Washington, DC: United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, 1999.

